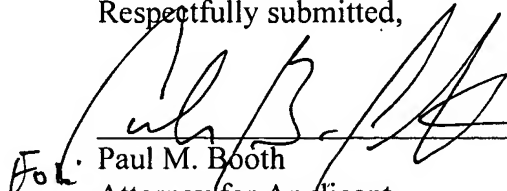


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-44 are pending in the application. Claim 22 has been amended. No new matter has been added. A first office action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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